

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 004135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ELA0, FI, VS

SUBJECT: FINNISH LABOR SUPPORT FOR PRG.

REF: HELSINKI 2595

1. DEPT APPRECIATES EMBASSY HELSINKI'S INITIATIVE IN
SUGGESTING POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO FINNISH SAK ON ISSUE
OF PRG SUPPORT.

2. THE US STRONGLY OPPOSES ANY ACTION TO ENHANCE THE
PRESTIGE OF THE PRG. IN OUR VIEW THE PRG IS SIMPLY A
FACADE FOF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IN SOUTH VIET-NAM
DIRECTED FROM HANOI. THE PRG IS DEVOID OF POPULAR PARTI-
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CIPATION, REPRESENTS A SMALL FRACTION OF THE SOUTH

VIETNAMESE POPULATION AND HAS NO ATTRIBUTES OF A GOVERNMENT. IT HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTION, APART FROM SOME VISIBLE UNITS OF AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ITS INTERNATIONAL ASPIRATIONS. IT HAS NO CAPITAL OR BODY OF LAWS OR JURISPRUDENCE. MILITARILY THE PRG IS ALMOST WHOLLY DEPENDENT ON THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY, WHICH CONSTITUTES THE GREAT BULK OF COMMUNIST MILITARY FORCES IN SOUTH VIET-NAM, AND ON WEAPONS FURNISHED BY NORTH VIET-NAM'S COMMUNIST ALLIES.

3. WE WOULD FURTHER NOTE THAT INCREASINGLY THE STATURE OF THE PRG AT THIS TIME CAN ONLY SERVE TO ENCOURAGE THE

COMMUNISTS IN THEIR CURRENT COURSE OF SHARPLY STEPPED-UP MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SOUTH VIET-NAM WHICH IS A BLATANT VIOLATION OF THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT. DURING THE PAST FOUR WEEKS, FOR EXAMPLE, COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE SEIZED SIX DISTRICT TOWNS, ONE MILITARY BASE AND, AT THIS WRITING, ARE REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN A PROVINCE CAPITAL. ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE COMMUNISTS TO CONTINUE THEIR POLICY OF IGNORING THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT FURTHER REDUCES THE POSSIBILITIES OF A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE VIET-NAM CONFLICT.

4. (FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND MATERIAL SEE STATE A-4318 OF MAY 17, 1973, A-1238 OF FEBRUARY 13, 1974 AND A-9177 OF DECEMBER 26, 1974 SENT TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS.)

5. IF IN EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT ANY HOST TRADE UNIONS WOULD BE RECEPTIVE AND WILLING TO DISCOURAGE FINNISH SAK FROM PURSUING PRESENT POLICIES IN SUPPORT OF PRG, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO DISCUSS MATTER DISCREETLY ALONG ABOVE LINES WITH APPROPRIATE TRADE UNION OFFICIALS.

6. FOR GENEVA. MISSION LABOR OFFICER REQUESTED TOUCH BASE WITH IMF GENERAL SECRETARY HERMAN REBHAN TO SOLICIT HIS VIEWS AND AID, IF POSSIBLE. LABATT SHOULD INDICATE
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THAT EA LABOR ADVISER WALKINSHAW, WHO IS CLOSE FRIEND OF REBHAN'S, SUGGESTED REBHAN BE CONTACTED AND ASKED TO STRIKE A BLOW FOR PEACE. REBHAN SHOULD BE TOLD THAT ANY FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF PRG IMAGE, SUCH AS UPGRADING ITS MISSION IN FINLAND, WILL ONLY HARDEN ITS ATTITUDE AND DELAY WHAT HE HAS LONG SUPPORTED: A PEACEFUL AND JUST SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT. ALSO INFORM REBHAN THAT SHARMAN OF IAM HAS BEEN INFORMED AND AGREES TO THIS

APPROACH TO REBHAN. REBHAN MAY ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH AFL-CIO REP, IRVING BROWN.

7. FOR SAIGON. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE MOVES, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST ADVISABLE TO BRING CVT PRESIDENT BUU INTO THE PICTURE. BUU SHOULD BE ASKED TO CONTACT HIS FRIENDS IN BOTH BATU AND THE WCL AND ASK THEM TO EXERT WHATEVER INFLUENCE THEY HAVE WITH LEADERS OF THE FINNISH AND OTHER EUROPEAN TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS.

8. FOR USEC BRUSSELS. USEC SHOULD NOT APPROACH EITHER THE ICFTU OR THE WCL.

9. FOR PARIS. PLEASE INFORM IRVING BROWN OF SUBJECT UNDER DISCUSSION AND OF APPROACHES

CONTEMPLATED IN SAIGON AND GENEVA. NO OTHER ACTION REQUESTED.

10. PLEASE INFORM DEPT OF ANY ACTIONS TAKEN. KISSINGER

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